

## ISS crew maintaining Station, surveying truss and laboratory



## All-American Picnic seeking chili cooks for April 26 event

**▲ ISS Update:** Aboard the International Space Station, The Expedition 6 crew -- Commander Ken Bowersox, Flight Engineer Nikolai Budarin and NASA ISS Science Officer Don Pettit -- spent their week doing routine maintenance, completing the troubleshooting the Microgravity Science Glovebox and continuing a survey of the outside of the station using the Canadarm2 robotic arm.

During the week, Budarin's activities included a survey of the windows in the Service Module and replacement of its sensors, which measure the amount of gravity the station experiences during thruster firings and dockings, and measuring the muscle sizes of the entire crew as part of a Russian medical experiment to study how the human body adapts to living in space for long periods of time.

On Thursday, Bowersox and Pettit used cameras on the Canadarm2 to continue surveying the station's Starboard 1 (S1) truss, inspecting the thermal covers on the radiator beam valve modules. They also surveyed the thermal covers around the optical-quality window on the bottom of the Destiny laboratory that is used for taking photographs of the Earth and the hatch that covers it when not in use.

**▲ Cook-Off for the All-American Picnic :** The 9th annual chili cook-off will occur April 26 as part of the KSC All American Picnic. There will be three competitions: Official Chili, People's Choice Chili and Best Store Front. Official Chili must be prepared on-site. There were 1200 tickets sold last year for the People's Choice Chili competition with the proceeds going to the KSC Child Development Center. The People's Choice judging starts at 11 a.m., Storefront at 12:30 p.m., and Official Chili at 1 p.m. Awards for 1st place in each category will be given at 2:30 p.m.. Entries are due by April 4; there will be a meeting of the teams at a later date to work out the details and review the rules. Entries are limited to the first 15 teams and each should be sponsored by a KSC or CCAFS organization. For the Official Rules &

Entry Form, send e-mail to [John.T.Jackson-2@nasa.gov](mailto:John.T.Jackson-2@nasa.gov) or mail to: UB-C1 c/o John Jackson (867-6029).

◆ **Visit the EEAW Web site for up-to-date event information** -- The Environmental & Energy Awareness Week will take place April 21-23. Visit the EEAW Web site <http://environmental.ksc.nasa.gov/eeaw/eeaw2003/index.htm> and search through the exhibits and exhibitors, tours, presentations, Opening Ceremony, dates/times of events and more.

◆ **Sign up for the LC-34 tour during EEAW - April 22 only** -- Come see the "proving ground" for new and innovative methods for cleaning up contaminated groundwater. Launch Complex-34 (LC-34) was the site of the Apollo 1 accident and the Apollo 7 launch. The Engineering Support Building at LC-34 was used to clean many of the engine and rocket parts associated with the Program, and the spent solvents used during this cold-war era were discharged to grade through existing floor drains in the building. The solvents used are especially difficult to remove from the groundwater, and new methods for extracting or degrading the contaminant were recently tested at the site. This tour will highlight these technologies and explain the difficulties associated with the removal of this contaminant from the subsurface. The tour will take place April 22 at 11:30 a.m. Limited van seating. You must have your supervisor's permission to attend the tour. Meet at the EEAW Welcome Table for departure 5 minutes before start of tour time. Please contact Jackie Quinn, 867-8410, to sign up for the tour, or e-mail [Jacqueline.W.Quinn@nasa.gov](mailto:Jacqueline.W.Quinn@nasa.gov) to reserve a seat.

◆ **Did You Know? Haulover Bridge Closing For Bridge Work** -- Tuesday, March 18, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., S.R. 3 will be closed at Haulover Bridge for bridge work. Personnel who normally travel this route will need to use the S.R. 406 (Garden Street) in Titusville.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday

**Deadlines: 10 a.m. Mondays & Wednesdays. Send information, comments or questions to:**

◆ E-mail – [Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov) ◆ Telephone – 321-867-2815

Find KSC Countdown on the Internet at <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2003.htm>